

CROSSLINKED POLYSACCHARIDES AND METHODS OF MAKING AND USING CROSSLINKED POLYSACCHARIDES

ABSTRACT

[032] This invention relates to methods of crosslinking polysaccharides to form crosslinked polysaccharides, and more particularly, to crosslinked polysaccharides that may be incorporated in fluids useful in, for example, applications requiring a crosslinked viscoelastic gel. In one embodiment, the present invention provides a method of crosslinking a polysaccharide comprising the steps of: providing a metal coordinating group having a reactive site, derivatizing a polysaccharide with the metal coordinating group to produce a derivatized polysaccharide having bidentate ligands, and crosslinking the derivatized polysaccharide having bidentate ligands with a metal ion to form a metal ligand coordination complex.